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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **SAKAI, Kenichiro**

Group Art Unit: **2621**

Serial No.: **09/475,991**

Examiner: **Brian Q. LE**

Filed: **December 30, 1999**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **7159**

FOR: DOCUMENT IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, DOCUMENT IMAGE MERGING METHOD, AND STORAGE MEDIUM RECORDING A DOCUMENT IMAGE MERGING PROGRAM

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -
GROUP ART UNIT 2621

Entered
w/ RCE
3-28-06
DBW
4-4-06

MAILSTOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 23, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 28, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 23 of this paper.